GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3830
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Compact Fluorescent Lamps
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) are hazardous for health as per a report of Centre for Science and Environment;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Government has set any norms for the manufacturing of CFLs;
(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the persons/companies violating the said norms; and
(e) the steps taken by the Government for safe disposal of CFLs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a)& (b) Government has not come across any report of Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) on Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL). However, as per other scientific information available and as confirmed by Central Pollution Control Board, no hazard to health and environment is likely to be caused if the end-of-life CFL are handled scientifically. Serious environmental and health hazards associated with CFL are the outcome of unscientific dumping, breaking of CFLs to remove plastic and other valuable materials, transportation of broken CFLs, storage of broken CFLs in open areas, draining of the mercury contaminated water by glass recyclers and others.

(c) Government has recently notified the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016. The norms for manufacturing of CFL and other mercury containing lamps are prescribed in Schedule II of the Rules, 2016.

(d) There is no report of violation of the norms and related action taken against the persons / companies violating such norms.

(e) As per the newly notified E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016, CFL and other mercury containing lamps are now part of Schedule I of the rules, which list out the categories of electrical electronic equipment to which rules are applicable. Accordingly, the Extended Producer Responsibility which forms the crux of the Rules is now vested on the producers of CFL for environmentally sound channelization of CFL to authorized recycling or disposal facility.

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